



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re:

U.S. Application of:

Masami TOYAMA, Motomi TAKEMOTO,

Akinori YOSHIDA, Hiroaki IKEDA, Tomokazu

KATO, and Junko NATSUME

For:

IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS HAVING A

DISPLAY CHANGEABLE IN COLOR

ACCORDING TO OPERATIONAL MODE

Prior Application:

U.S. Serial No.:

09/160,267

Filed:

September 24, 1998

Group Art Unit:

2624

Examiner:

Douglas Q. Tran

BOX CPA

Assistant Director

for Patents

P.O. Box 2327

Arlington, VA 22202

DEC O 3 2001 EXPRESS MAIL MAILING LABEL NO .: EL 794575124 US DATE OF DEPOSIT: NOVEMBER 30, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to BOX CPA, Assistant Director for Patents, P.O. Box

2327, Arlington, VA. 22202.

DERRICK T. GORDON

November 30, 2001 Date of Signature

Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The following is a preliminary amendment, which is being submitted concurrently with the filing of a Continued Prosecution Application.

A Petition For Extension of Time, to extend the response period for the Office Action, dated July 30, 2001, for one additional month to November 30, 2001, is being filed concurrently herewith.